

## CLAIMS

1           1.       Washing machine with components which are supported with the freedom  
2 to oscillate, especially washing tubs, to which ballast bodies are attached, characterized in that  
3 the ballast body has the approximate shape of a ring or of a section of a circular ring of optional  
4 cross-sectional thickness and has several openings and/or holes in at least one circular arc-shaped  
5 section, the surfaces of which openings and/or holes are complementary to the corresponding  
6 external contours of the fastening elements on the component at the points where the openings  
7 and/or holes make contact with those elements.

1           2.       Washing machine according to Claim 1, characterized in that the fastening  
2 elements on the component and the surface of the ballast body both consist essentially of  
3 thermoplastic material.

1           3.       Washing machine according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, characterized in that,  
2 in a plane more-or-less parallel to the surface of the ballast body, the fastening elements have a  
3 honeycomb structure or a closed external contour with stiffening webs in between.

1           4.       Washing machine according to one of the preceding claims, characterized  
2 in that the openings and holes are preferably oval or kidney-shaped.

1           5.       Washing machine according to one of the preceding claims, characterized  
2 in that some of the plurality of fastening elements are provided with a threaded bore, which is  
3 directed straight toward the ballast body but which is not in contact with the external contour.

1           6.       Washing machine according to one of the preceding claims, characterized  
2 in that the ballast body rests simultaneously against the external contours of a plurality of  
3 fastening elements.

1                   7.     Ballast bodies for washing machines, especially ballast bodies to be  
2 fastened to washing tubs, containing a certain amount of plastic and a certain amount of ferrous  
3 material, characterized by a ballast body with a density of  $> 2.4 \text{ g/cm}^3$  produced by injection-  
4 molding from a thermoplastic material containing significant amounts of filler consisting of  
5 hematite and/or magnetite.

1                   8.     Ballast body according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in  
2 that the density is  $2.5\text{-}3.9 \text{ g/cm}^3$ , and preferably  $2.9\text{-}3.5 \text{ g/cm}^3$ .

1                   9.     Ballast body according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in  
2 that the body contains certain amounts of polyethylene or polypropylene.

1                   10.    Ballast body according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in  
2 that the ferrous materials include not only hematite and magnetite but also rolling scale, and in  
3 that the material constitutes 35-70% by volume of the body.

1                   11.    Ballast body according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in  
2 that the surface of the body consists entirely of thermoplastic material.